

From: Todd Bredin <tbredin@grandtraverse.org>

Date: August 28, 2014 at 12:45:23 PM EDT

To: jwilensky@comcast.net, Sherise Shively <sshively@grandtraverse.org>

Subject: Public Comment

Dear Ms. Wilensky,

I work in Community Corrections in Grand Traverse County. I'm concerned with the recent legislative recommendations as they relate to Community Corrections.

Some of these recommendations place limits on local control. Grand Traverse County has used Community Corrections in many innovative ways that address specific needs in our community that may or may not exist in other places. Local control allows communities to spend in ways that return the most value for that community. Restricting local control ensures that each dollar will be spent less effectively.

I also don't see value in merging Community Corrections with the Prison Re-Entry Program. Community Corrections has shown positive, measurable results for several years. The Prison Re-Entry Program has had dubious results. I believe merging a failing program with a successful one is most likely to hinder the successful one, rather than improve the failing one. It might be best to enjoy successes wherever you find them and allow them to continue unimpeded.

Sincerely,

Todd Bredin
Grand Traverse County

231-922-4461

Community Corrections